



## Online Resources for Northern New Spain

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The following information is an overview of online resources available for people researching in Northern New Spain. These resources should enable you to become confident navigating internet resources based out of Spain, Mexico, and the United States.

### PARES: PORTAL DE ARCHIVOS ESPAÑOLES

PARES is a master inventory of many archives in Spain and some in Latin America. The inventory includes cataloged information and digitized records.

PARES was created in order to give free access to anyone interested in historical documents of Spanish archives, including many documents that pertain to New Spain.

The website is in Spanish. In order to translate it into English:

- Open the website in Google Chrome.
- Right-click on an empty portion of the website.
- Select **Translate to English** from the list of options.

### Censo-Guía de Archivos

The Censo-Guía is a guide to the archives, providing three different types of searches

1. **Directoria de Archivos** (File Directory) gives the location, contact information, collection description, and policies of a specific archive.
2. **Fondos Documentos** (Documentary Funds) shows the types of records stored at different archives.
3. **Autoridades** (Authorities) shows information about the persons or institutions that created the documents within PARES.

To access the Censo-Guía from <http://pares.mcu.es/> click on **Censo-Guía de Archivos** under Enlaces de Interés (Links of Interest) on the bottom-right side of the screen.

### Simple Search

- [http://pares.mcu.es/ParesBusquedas/servlets/Control\\_servlet?accion=0](http://pares.mcu.es/ParesBusquedas/servlets/Control_servlet?accion=0)
- Search by key words and date ranges.
- Use quotation marks to search exactly what you type into the search bar.

- Search all the records, not just digitized records. Results for non-digitized records still include a record summary and information on how to obtain the records.

### Advanced Search

- [http://pares.mcu.es/ParesBusquedas/servlets/Control\\_servlet?accion=100](http://pares.mcu.es/ParesBusquedas/servlets/Control_servlet?accion=100)
- Search options are the same as in Simple Search.
- Filter by archive collections, catalog number, or descriptive terms.
- Search all the records, not just digitized records. Results for non-digitized records still include a record summary and information on how to obtain the records.

## AGI: ARCHIVO GENERAL DE INDIAS

The Archivo General de Indias holds all Spanish records created that regard overseas territories. The online collection contains many digitized records, including passenger lists to New Spain, migration licenses, and court records from New Spain.

- Many of the records have been indexed and can be searched. Use the **Advanced Search** in PARES and filter by **Archivo General De Indias**.
  - Search by full name, last name, and locality.
- Browse the collection by clicking **Inventario Dinamico** (Dynamic Inventory), select **Archivo General de Indias** (General Archive of the Indies), and clicking the plus arrow next to the collection name. The digitized passenger lists and licenses are under the **Casa de la Contración, Pasajeros a Indias**.

## MMI: MOVIMIENTOS MIGRATORIOS IBEROAMERICANOS

Movimientos Migratorios Iberoamericanos is a database centered on documents relating to modern Spanish emigration to Ibero-America. The record collection includes passenger lists, boarding permits, foreigner registers, and similar records.

- <http://pares.mcu.es/MovimientosMigratorios/staticContent.form?viewName=presentacion>
- Click **Search** to search the collection by an immigrant's name, birth date and birth place, place of departure, or place of arrival.
- Find contact information for the associated archives by clicking **Sources**.

## BII: BICENTENARIO DE LAS INDEPENDENCIAS IBEROAMERICANAS

This website provides historical overviews and sources of the independence process of many of the former Spanish colonies.

- <http://pares.mcu.es/Bicentenarios/portal/index.html>
- **Contexto histórico** (Historical Context) provides a detailed history of the independence process, with sections on Imperial Spain, the independence movements, and the last territories as well as biographies and associated documents for many of the revolutionaries.

- **Búsqueda de documentos** (Document search) allows for simple and advanced searches of the document collection relating to the independence process. It also allows users to browse the **Inventario Dinámico** (Catalog) by selecting the country, archive, and specific collection. Many of these collections have not been digitized and can only be accessed in the archive.

## DOCUMENTARY RELATIONS OF THE SOUTHWEST

The University of Arizona compiled a name-index of persons mentioned in thousands of documents created between the first contact between Spanish explorers with indigenous people in the 1500s until Mexico's independence from Spain in 1821.

- <https://uair.library.arizona.edu/item/79579n>
- **Biofile Name List** is a list of almost 20,000 persons who frequently appear in the historical records of northern New Spain.
- **Biofile Resident List** is a list of all the people mentioned within the records of the people in the Biofile Name List. Many are household members or relatives of the person from the Biofile Name List.

## WORLD DIGITAL LIBRARY

Funded by the U.S. Congress, the World Digital Library is an online repository records from around the world for free.

- <https://www.wdl.org/en/>
- Browse collection by place, time, topic, item type, language, or contributing institution
- Includes maps, historic newspapers, legal documents, photographs, histories, biographies, dictionaries, and many other record types.
- For resources about New Spain.
  - Select **Explore** from the menu on the top of the page.
  - Click **Place**.
  - Click **Latin America and the Caribbean**.
  - Either search by key word or select a specific country to view the associated images and documents.

## AGN: ARCHIVO GENERAL DE LA NACIÓN MÉXICO

The Archivo General de la Nación México has thousands of documents pertaining to the time Mexico was part of New Spain. The Guía general de los fondos (General Document Guide) provides access to catalog information and digital images of many documents.

- <http://www.agn.gob.mx/guiageneral/>
- Click the **name of the file** you wish to search from the list on the left, then **Buscar** at the bottom of the screen to search for documents within the file.

- Begin by searching all records within the archive by clicking **Archivo General de la Nación**, then **Buscar**.
- Within the search window, enter the places, names, or key words you wish to search in the box next to **Palabra(s)**, then click **Agregar** to add each term to the list of search terms. After adding all the search terms, click **Aceptar** to search the records.
- Browse the collection by clicking the plus (+) button next to each folder to see the sub-sections of each collection.
  - Most of the records pertaining to New Spain can be accessed by clicking the plus button next to **Archivo General de la Nación**, then the plus button next to **Instituciones Coloniales**.
  - Click on a collection name to read a summary of the collection and see catalog information on how to access the records.
  - If there is a button that says **Ver Imagen(es)** within the collection summary, the records have been digitized and can be viewed online.

## OTHER IMPORTANT COLLECTIONS

Many of these universities have collections that focus on New Spain. While many of these records have not been digitized, the university staff may provide copies of the documents, or books may be requested through an interlibrary loan to a library near you.

- University of Texas, El Paso
  - <http://libraryweb.utep.edu/special/>
- University of Texas, Austin
  - Nettie Lee Benson Latin American Collection: <http://www.lib.utexas.edu/benson/>
  - Briscoe Center for American History: <http://www.cah.utexas.edu/>
- University of California, Berkeley, Latin Americana Collection
  - <http://bancroft.berkeley.edu/collections/latinamericana.html>
- Yale University, Latin American Collection
  - <http://www.library.yale.edu/latinamerica/internet.html>
- New Mexico State University, Border & Latin America Information
  - <http://nmsu.libguides.com/border>
- Tulane University, New Orleans, Latin American Library
  - <http://lal.tulane.edu/>

## FAMILYSEARCH CATALOG

Many of the resources available through the above-listed resources are also available at the Family History Library and online at FamilySearch.org.

- <https://www.familysearch.org/search/catalog/search>
- List digital resources as well as microfilms or books available at the Family History Library.
- Search by **title** or **author** to find a specific record or collection.
- Search by one of the following **keywords**:
  - Nueva España
  - Nueva Espana
  - “Nuevo Mexico”
  - Archivo General de Indias
  - Archivo General de la Nación México
  - Ordenes militares
  - Hojas de servicio

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Approved 08/2018